

DISPOSITIONS OF FELONY ARRESTS

San Francisco County

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In conjunction with the Project SEARCH, a review of felony arrest dispositions in 12 California counties was published as "Special Report No. 3". Information on individuals arrested in San Francisco County was also accumulated but was limited to the felony arrests occurring during the last six months of the year 1969. Because of the volume of arrests and the fact that the follow-through process in these cases was not as well developed as in the other counties, the San Francisco part of the project beyond the six-month period was abandoned. A follow-up has been made of these arrests and has been carried through to April 6, 1971, a period of over 15 months after the date of the last arrest recorded.

An analysis of these arrests is presented in the following five tables which follow the format used in presenting the dispositions of the arrests in the 12-county report for 1969.

A total of 5,648 individual felony arrests was recorded during this six-month period. Some 361 of these arrests have been excluded from the analysis. These include 144 defendants turned over to other jurisdictions and 33 defendants returned to juvenile court. Also, there were 110 arrests that involved defendants already in the study where a court disposition was made on all arrests at one time; only one arrest was counted. In every instance the defendant was counted for the disposition reaching the highest level of conviction and sentence, or, if not convicted the arrest counted was for the most serious offense. Also, in this group were 74 arrests without dispositions. The case of each of these defendants was still pending in the superior court as of April 6, 1971. A substantial portion of these non-disposed of cases involved defendants who have disappeared and for whom bench warrants are outstanding.

The 5,287 defendants for whom dispositions were available, and which form the basis of this supplemental study, are shown first in Table 1 by type of disposition and type of offense. A little more than one-third of the

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defendants arrested were released by the police without any complaint being filed. Although this proportion was only one-fifth of those involved in burglary offenses, it was considerably over one-half of those booked for receiving stolen property. Another 44 percent of the defendants were disposed of in the municipal court and only 20.7 percent were disposed of in the superior court. As in the police dispositions, a great deal of variation in court dispositions is to be noted in the proportions among the offense groups.

Table 2 shows the sentences imposed on the 2,674 defendants convicted either in the municipal or superior court. As will be noted, the predominant type of sentence was probation. Only 2.6 percent of the original arrest group were convicted and given prison sentences.

Table 3 shows the distribution of these arrestees by sex, age and race grouping, level of prior record and current status according to the type of disposition. Table 4 shows the same data by type of offense.

And finally, Table 5 is presented to show the time which elapsed in the disposition of those defendants filed on and disposed of either in the municipal or superior court. A median time of 31 days is shown in all cases with a range of time for the middle 80 percent of three to 191 days. The median time for disposition for those who went to the municipal court was only 17 days from arrest to final disposition. For those disposed of in the superior court the median time was 122 days. For the defendants entering an original plea of guilty in the superior court the median time was 75 days, but for those who pled not guilty and either later changed their plea to guilty or disposed of by trial, the median approximated six months.

Direct comparisons of these data can be made with the tables published in the 12-county report particularly with the Table C section of that report showing the outcome of defendants arrested in the three larger counties of the 12, namely Sacramento, San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties.



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TABLE 1
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS
ARRESTS OF LAST HALF 1969 - DISPOSITIONS TO APRIL 6, 1971

Disposition by Type of Offense

Disposition	Total	Personal violence	Rob- bery	Bur- glary	Grand theft	Receiving stolen property	Auto theft	Forgery and checks	Mari- juana	Dan- gerous drugs	Other drugs	All other
Total arrests	5,287	698	483	589	277	491	572	336	622	444	434	301
Released by police.	1,864	188	186	122	68	275	233	85	238	197	179	93
Lower court dispositions.	2,326	372	122	269	147	188	234	198	328	170	138	160
Dismissed	636	160	67	63	32	38	66	27	61	28	41	53
Convicted	1,690	212	55	206	115	150	168	171	267	142	97	107
Superior court dispositions	1,097	138	175	198	62	28	105	53	96	77	117	48
Not convicted	113	16	20	11	4	6	12	-	17	9	13	5
Dismissed	92	9	17	8	3	6	10	-	17	7	10	5
Acquitted	21	7	3	3	1	-	2	-	-	2	3	-
Convicted	984	122	155	187	58	22	93	53	79	68	104	43
Original plea of guilty	434	26	47	79	30	16	62	32	37	32	53	20
Change of plea to guilty	473	74	86	89	26	6	30	20	41	35	48	18
By trial.	77	22	22	19	2	-	1	1	1	1	3	5
Percent distribution.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Released by police.	35.3	26.9	38.5	20.7	24.5	56.0	40.7	25.3	36.0	44.4	41.2	30.9
Lower court dispositions.	44.0	53.3	25.3	45.7	53.1	38.3	40.9	58.9	49.5	38.3	31.8	53.2
Dismissed	12.0	22.9	13.9	10.7	11.6	7.7	11.5	8.0	9.2	6.3	9.4	17.6
Convicted	32.0	30.4	11.4	35.0	41.5	30.6	29.4	50.9	40.3	32.0	22.4	35.6
Superior court dispositions	20.7	19.8	36.2	33.6	22.4	5.7	18.4	15.8	14.5	17.3	27.0	15.9
Not convicted	2.1	2.3	4.1	1.9	1.5	1.2	2.1	-	2.6	2.0	3.0	1.7
Dismissed.	1.7	1.3	3.5	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.7	-	2.6	1.6	2.3	1.7
Acquitted.	0.4	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.4	-	0.4	-	-	0.4	0.7	-
Convicted.	18.6	17.5	32.1	31.7	20.9	4.5	16.3	15.8	11.9	15.3	24.0	14.2
Original plea of guilty	8.2	3.7	9.7	13.4	10.8	3.3	10.8	9.5	5.6	7.2	12.2	6.6
Change of plea to guilty.	8.9	10.6	17.8	15.1	9.4	1.2	5.3	6.0	6.2	7.9	11.1	5.9
Trial.	1.5	3.2	4.6	3.2	0.7	-	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.7	1.7
Total not convicted.	49.4	52.1	56.5	33.3	37.6	64.9	54.3	33.3	47.8	52.7	53.6	50.2
Total convicted.	50.6	47.9	43.5	66.7	62.4	35.1	45.7	66.7	52.2	47.3	46.4	49.8

TABLE 2
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS RESULTING IN CONVICTIONS
ARRESTS OF LAST HALF 1969 - DISPOSITIONS TO APRIL 6, 1971

Sentence by Offense

Sentence	Total	Personal violence	Rob- bery	Bur- glary	Grand theft	Receiving stolen property	Auto theft	Forgery and checks	Mari- juana	Dan- gerous drugs	Other drugs	All other
Total convictions	2,674	334	210	393	173	172	261	224	346	210	201	150
Prison	135	33	37	27	4	1	6	5	1	-	10	11
Youth Authority	33	3	17	7	2	-	2	-	1	-	1	-
Civil commitment	64	1	5	11	4	3	2	5	1	3	28	1
Probation	1,216	165	43	107	64	79	108	135	260	107	77	71
Probation and jail	697	69	89	150	45	30	95	40	52	57	48	22
Jail	455	51	19	86	49	50	46	38	24	35	37	20
Fine	74	12	-	5	5	9	2	1	7	8	-	25
Percent of convictions . . .	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Prison	5.0	9.9	17.6	6.9	2.3	0.6	2.3	2.2	0.3	-	5.0	7.3
Youth Authority	1.2	0.9	8.1	1.8	1.2	-	0.8	-	0.3	-	0.5	-
Civil commitment	2.4	0.3	2.4	2.8	2.3	1.7	0.8	2.2	0.3	1.4	13.9	0.7
Probation	45.5	49.4	20.5	27.2	37.0	45.9	41.3	60.2	75.1	51.0	38.3	47.3
Probation and jail	26.1	20.7	42.4	38.1	26.0	17.5	36.4	17.9	15.1	27.1	23.9	14.7
Jail	17.0	15.3	9.0	21.9	28.3	29.1	17.6	17.0	6.9	16.7	18.4	13.3
Fine	2.8	3.6	-	1.3	2.9	5.2	0.8	0.5	2.0	3.8	-	16.7
Percent of arrests	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Convicted	50.6	47.9	43.5	66.7	62.4	35.1	45.7	66.7	52.2	47.3	46.4	49.8
Prison	2.6	4.7	7.7	4.6	1.4	0.2	1.0	1.5	0.1	-	2.3	3.7
Youth Authority	0.6	0.4	3.5	1.2	0.7	-	0.4	-	0.1	-	0.2	-
Civil commitment	1.2	0.1	1.0	1.9	1.4	0.6	0.4	1.5	0.1	0.7	6.5	0.3
Probation	23.0	23.7	8.9	18.1	23.1	16.1	18.9	40.2	39.3	24.1	17.8	23.6
Probation and jail	13.2	9.9	18.4	25.5	16.3	6.1	16.6	11.9	7.9	12.8	11.1	7.3
Jail	8.6	7.3	4.0	14.6	17.7	10.2	8.0	11.3	3.6	7.9	8.5	6.6
Fine	1.4	1.7	-	0.8	1.8	1.9	0.4	0.3	1.1	1.8	-	8.3

TABLE 3
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS
ARRESTS OF LAST HALF 1969 - DISPOSITIONS TO APRIL 6, 1971

Sex, Age, Race, Prior and Current Status by Type of Disposition

Sex, age, race, prior and current status	Lower court disposition					Superior court disposition				
	Total	Released by police	Total	Not convicted	Convicted	Total	Dismissed	Trial	Original plea of guilty	Change of plea to guilty
Total arrests	5,287	1,864	2,326	636	1,690	1,097	92	98	434	475
Sex										
Male	4,653	1,628	2,016	539	1,477	1,009	84	94	394	437
Female	634	236	310	97	213	88	8	4	40	36
Percent female . . .	12.0	12.7	13.3	15.3	12.6	8.0	9.6	4.1	9.2	7.6
Age										
18-19	853	295	382	95	287	176	11	10	77	78
20-24	1,885	644	858	209	649	383	42	21	154	166
25-39	1,928	695	828	245	583	405	32	50	150	173
40 and over	621	230	258	87	171	133	7	17	53	56
Percent under 25 . .	51.7	50.4	53.3	47.8	55.4	51.0	57.6	31.6	53.2	51.6
25-39	36.5	37.3	35.6	38.5	34.5	36.9	34.8	51.0	34.6	36.6
40 and over	11.8	12.3	11.1	13.7	10.1	12.1	7.6	17.4	12.2	11.8
Race										
White	2,804	1,001	1,268	297	971	535	44	36	227	228
Mexican-American . .	184	58	93	19	74	33	3	4	12	14
Negro	2,130	750	892	290	602	488	41	56	181	210
Other	169	55	73	30	43	41	4	2	14	21
Percent										
White	53.0	53.7	54.5	46.7	57.5	48.8	47.8	36.7	52.3	48.2
Mexican-American . .	3.5	3.1	4.0	3.0	4.4	3.0	3.3	4.1	2.8	3.0
Negro	40.3	40.2	38.4	45.6	35.6	44.5	44.6	57.2	41.7	44.4
Other	3.2	3.0	3.1	4.7	2.5	3.7	4.3	2.0	3.2	4.4
Prior record										
Total known	5,085	1,773	2,223	594	1,629	1,089	89	98	432	470
None	1,052	346	546	137	409	160	24	13	49	74
Minor	1,652	589	761	228	533	302	20	21	115	146
Major	1,589	553	620	150	470	416	33	30	176	177
Prison	792	285	296	79	217	211	12	34	92	73
Percent low	53.2	52.7	58.8	61.4	57.8	42.4	49.4	34.7	38.0	46.8
Percent high	46.8	47.3	41.2	38.6	42.2	57.6	50.6	65.3	62.0	53.2
Status										
Total known	5,085	1,773	2,223	594	1,629	1,089	89	98	432	470
None	3,547	1,259	1,634	443	1,191	654	58	58	229	309
Probation	1,036	327	419	102	317	290	24	16	142	108
Parole	496	187	169	48	121	140	6	24	58	52
Institution	6	-	1	1	-	5	1	-	3	1
Percent none	69.8	71.0	73.5	74.6	73.1	60.1	65.2	59.2	53.0	65.7
Percent status	30.2	29.0	26.5	25.4	26.9	39.9	34.8	40.8	47.0	34.3

TABLE 4
SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS
ARRESTS OF LAST HALF 1969 - DISPOSITIONS TO APRIL 6, 1971

Sex, Age, Race, Prior Record and Current Status by Type of Offense

Sex, age, race, prior record and current status	Total	Personal violence	Rob- bery	Bur- glary	Grand theft	Receiving stolen property	Auto theft	Forgery and checks	Mari- juana	Dan- gerous drugs	Other drugs	All other
Total arrests	5,287	698	483	589	277	491	572	336	662	444	434	301
Sex												
Male	4,653	613	446	566	221	441	526	247	584	381	362	266
Female	634	85	37	23	56	50	46	89	78	63	72	35
Percent female	12.0	12.2	7.7	3.9	20.2	10.2	8.0	26.5	11.8	14.2	16.6	11.6
Age												
18-19	853	74	96	125	32	68	163	23	151	66	28	27
20-24	1,885	197	202	192	66	163	230	117	319	179	132	88
25-39	1,928	289	156	204	126	185	146	161	182	165	189	125
40 and over	621	138	29	68	53	75	33	35	10	34	85	61
Percent under 25	51.7	38.8	61.7	53.8	35.4	47.0	68.7	41.7	71.0	55.2	36.9	38.2
25-39	36.5	41.4	32.3	34.6	45.5	37.7	25.5	47.9	27.5	37.2	43.5	41.5
40 and over	11.8	19.8	6.0	11.6	19.1	15.3	5.8	10.4	1.5	7.6	19.6	20.3
Race												
White	2,804	327	159	283	119	239	253	182	491	330	233	188
Mexican-American	184	23	11	30	20	21	19	7	9	14	18	12
Negro	2,130	319	290	248	129	218	272	142	156	89	170	97
Other	169	29	23	28	9	13	28	5	6	11	13	4
Percent												
White	53.0	46.8	32.9	48.0	43.0	48.7	44.2	54.2	74.2	74.3	53.7	62.5
Mexican-American	3.5	3.3	2.3	5.1	7.2	4.3	3.3	2.1	1.4	3.2	4.1	4.0
Negro	40.3	45.7	60.0	42.1	46.6	44.4	47.6	42.2	23.5	20.0	39.2	32.2
Other	3.2	4.2	4.8	4.8	3.2	2.6	4.9	1.5	0.9	2.5	3.0	1.3
Prior record												
Total known	5,085	672	461	567	263	473	547	319	641	428	424	290
None	1,052	147	79	90	51	86	107	76	256	59	50	51
Minor	1,652	260	148	160	63	146	165	92	237	156	126	99
Major	1,589	193	158	197	85	162	208	93	117	155	134	87
Prison	792	72	76	120	64	79	67	58	31	58	114	53
Percent low	53.2	60.6	49.2	44.1	43.3	49.0	49.7	52.7	76.9	50.2	41.5	51.7
Percent high	46.8	39.4	50.8	55.9	56.7	51.0	50.3	47.3	23.1	49.8	58.5	48.3
Status												
Total known	5,085	672	461	567	263	473	547	319	641	428	424	290
None	3,547	513	299	359	169	323	350	226	536	281	280	211
Probation	1,036	115	89	129	62	107	137	63	81	121	82	50
Parole	496	43	73	79	32	43	60	30	24	26	61	25
Institution	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Percent none	69.8	76.3	64.9	63.3	64.3	68.3	64.0	70.8	83.6	65.7	66.0	72.8
Percent status	30.2	23.7	35.1	36.7	35.7	31.7	36.0	29.2	16.4	34.3	34.0	27.2

TABLE 5
 SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS
 ARRESTS OF LAST HALF 1969 - DISPOSITIONS TO APRIL 6, 1971

Time From Arrest to Disposition (in days) by Type of Disposition

Disposition	Number	Median	Range of the middle 80 percent
Total cases with court disposition	3,423	38	3-191
Municipal court dispo- sitions	2,326	17	2- 84
Dismissed.	636	30	3-106
Convicted.	1,690	12	2- 72
Superior court dispo- sitions	1,097	122	51-328
Dismissed.	92	108	51-299
Original plea of guilty.	77	75	40-175
Change of plea to guilty.	434	186	80-394
Trial.	473	178	102-363

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